

October 10, 2011

I am honored to be here today and speak on behalf of those suffering from devastating accidents and dealing with the insurance companies and their bureaucratic shenanigans. My name is Mary Kathleen McEvilly and I sustained a catastrophic head injury in 1974.

I am so truly grateful for the benefits that have been provided for me. The benefits have given me a second chance at life and helping with the quality of my life!! I was 15 at the time of my accident, I am now 51. Put yourself in my shoes. I was 15, looking forward to cheer leading, homecoming dances, proms, my first kiss, higher education, children, marriage, the whole nine yards!! Not ever thinking my future would be filled with Dr. visits, hospitalization, surgeries, medications. Thankfully, my basic needs are being met now through the sustaining of the insurance benefits.

I received an Outstanding Award from the MI head injury alliance two years ago, for my work in educating school children about head injuries and safety issues like helmets. Hmmm, maybe I should also target the adult population, primarily insurance companies.

Passage of this bill undercuts the future care of those children I spoke to, the many people I already know with this devastating injury. The folks I know personally being treated by Medicaid/Medicare are very much under served. Please do NOT pass this bill...I URGE you.

In this great state of ours and Country, I assume you all feel we should open this up to all Voters in MI. This is a Democracy after all!!

Thank you.

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